

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO:

City Council

FROM:

City Manager

MEETING DATE:

June 6, 1990

AGENDA TITLE:

Set Public Hearing for June 20, 1990 Regarding

Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council set a public hearing for June 20, 1990 to discuss DBCP in Lodi's groundwater supply.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION Attached is a copy of the City of Lodi's amended water supply permit dated April 20, 1990. Condition 3b of this permit reads as follows:

"The City shall hold a public meeting by July 15, 1990 to inform the public of the DBCP problem within the system and provide an opportunity for comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code."

Section 6061 requires a one-time publication of the notice of the public meeting \blacksquare

Last week, the City sent out the attached letter to all water customers which outlined the dilemma that Lodi has with DBCP. The City also held a press conference on Wednesday, May 23, 1990, related to the same subject.

The proposed public hearing will satisfy the requirement of our amended water supply permit and will provide the public with an opportunity to comment.

Jack . Ronsko

Public Works Director

JLR/mt

Attachments

cc: Water/Wastewater Superintendent

California Department of Health Services, Dave Zuccaro California Department of Health Services, Bert Ellsworth

APPROVED:

THOMAS A. PETERSON, City Manager

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STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER

City of Lodi

San Joaquin County April 1990

Report Prepared By:

Report Approved By:

Chief Northern California

Region

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES 31 EAST CHANNEL STREET, HOOM 270 STOCKTON, CA. 99202 (209) 948-7697



April 20, 1990

Jack L. Ronsko
Public Works Director
221 West Pine Street
Lodi, CA 95240

PERMIT AMENDMENT

The application from the City: of Lodi (hereinafter city) for an amended water supply permit for System No. 39-004, dated March 12, 1990, has been considered by the State Department of Health Services. Enclosed is a copy of an Engineering Report, dated March 21, 1990, prepared by the Office of Drinking Water regarding the application.

It is the Finding of the State Department of Health Services that the water system will be unable to meet California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 64444.5, Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's), Table 5(c) 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP), on a continuous basis. Peak demand periods will require the City to use wells that contain DBCP above its MCL. This finding is based on the enclosed report. The City is hereby granted an amended domestic water supply permit allowing the use of well sources which may exceed the MCL for DBCP, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. All water consumers being served by the City water system which exceeds the MCL for DBCP shall be notified of such fact in accordance with Section 64463, Chapter 15, Title 22, CCR.
- 2. The City shall use DBCP contaminated wells only to meet peak demand periods as defined by minimum water system pressure set points, starting with those wells which have the lowest concentration of DBCP. Wells with the highest concentration of DBCP shall be the first to be taken off-line as demand permits. In no case shall the City of Lodi return to service any well which has a DBCP concentration of greater than 2.0 ug/l as required under Section 64445.1 (b) 5, Chapter 15, Title 22, CCR.
- 3. The City shall meet the following DBCP abatement schedule:
 - a) By June 1, 1990, the City shall determine the average DBCP concentration in the parts of the distribution system that have the potential of receiving concentrations of DBCP above its MCL. This data shall be submitted to the Department by June 15, 1990.

- b) The City shall hold a public meeting by July 15, 1990 to inform the public of the DBCP problem within the system and provide an opportunity for comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code.
- c) By April 1, 1991, the City shall have procured funds for the purpose of purchasing well-head activated carbon treatment units and/or abandoning/replacing wells which violate the MCL for DBCP.
- d) By April 1, 1992, the City shall have installed well-head activated carbon treatment units at each well site which violates the MCL for DBCP.
- 4. After installation of each well-head activated carbon treatment unit, the City shall verify through laboratory results that the treatment provided at each well site is functioning as intended. Specifically, each treatment unit must reduce the DBCP concentration to a level not to exceed 0.2 ug/l.
- 5. The Department strongly recommends that the City further its water conservation efforts so as to minimize the run-time of those wells which aced the MCL for DBCP and thus reduce the water consumers' exposure to DBCP.
- **6. The** City shall **not** meet increased system water demands caused by the addition of new subdivisions (those not having an approved tentative map) to the system by increasing its use All new sources added to of DBCP contaminated sources. accommodate **growth** shall comply with all primary secondary standards set forth in sections 64421 through sections 64471 through inclusive, and Chapter 15, Title 22, inclusive, of CCR. industrial/commercial development that incorporates low water use may be allowed and will be considered on a case by case basis.

This permit adds to and amends the existing permit granted to the City of Lodi on October 29, 1985.

A. L. Ellsworth, P.E., Chief Northern California Region Office of Drinking Water

Enclosure

cc: San Jaoquin Co. Health Dept.

PUBLICWORKS DEPARTMENT

WATER DIVISION (209) 333-6740

May 21.1990

Dear Water Customer:

The City of Lodi is sending you this letter under the direction of the California Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water, to bring to your attention certain action being taken by the Department of Health Services with respect to drinking water standards.

The California Department of Health Services has adopted new drinking water limits for Dibromochloropropane (DBCP). This organic chemical was once a popular pesticide used in and around Lodi by area farmers. In California, DBCP use was banned in 1977. The Department has determined that DBCP may be a health concern at certain levels of exposure.

Chemicals such as DBCP that cause cancer in laboratory animals, such as rats and mice when exposed to very high doses over their lifetimes, may increase the risk of cancer to humans exposed to trace amounts over long periods of time. Although this possibility is debated by leading scientists, the Department of Health Services on July 28.1989 set a new drinkingwater limit of 0.0002 parts per million (ppm) for DBCP.

To help you visualize the new limit, **0.0002 ppm** is equal to 1 drop in ap**proxima**tely **66,000 gallons** of water. If you drank 2 quarts of water a day, it would take **more than** 360 years to drink **66,000** gallons.

The theoretical *cancer* hazard of drinking 2 quarts per day of **Lodi's** water containing DBCP at its highest possible level is very small and is, in fact, 3 times less than the cancer hazard of eating a serving of peanut butter per day, 40 times less than the *cancer* hazard of eating 2 slices of bread per day and 280 times less than the cancer hazard of drinking 1 glass of wine per day! The cancer hazard of these common food items is not regulated by the Government.

Prior to July **28**, **1989**. all of Lodi's wells met the California Department of Health Services standard of **0.001** ppm. As a result of the State's new, more stringent DBCP standard, **12** of Lodi's **23** wells are now out of comptiance. **To** satisfy Lodi's peak warm weather water demands, it will be necessary to use all of the existing wells before treatment facilities can be installed.

The City of Lodi is working toward a solution to this dilemma. To protect your heath and continue to meet fire protection needs, the City of Lodi has obtained approval from the California Department of Health Services to use wells containing DBCP during peak water demands until they can be brought into compliance. A compliance ptan, which will include abandoning some wells, well site treatment facilities, and installation of new wells, has been sent to the State for approval.

The estimated initial construction cost to meet this new DBCP limit is between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000. **Lodi** is seeking a **low-interest** loan to help finance this construction; however. the ultimate full cost must be paid by you, the water customer in Lodi.

In the meantime, you may consider your water safe to drink. The City will keep you informed on a regular basis of progress made to resolve this issue.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, the water quality standards. or our service, please contact the office of the Water/Wastewater Superintendent at 333-6740.

Jack L. Ronsko Public **Works** Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

June 20, 1990

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, at the hour of 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the City Council will conduct a public meeting to consider the following matter:

a) At the request of the California Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water, the City shall hold a public meeting to inform the public of the Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) dilemma within the water system and provide an opportunity for additional comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code.

All interested persons are invited to present their Views and comments on this matter. Written statements may be filed with City Clerk any time prior to the meeting scheduled herein, and oral statements may be made at said meeting.

By Order of the Lodi City Council:

Alice M. Reimche

Alice M. Reimche City Clerk

Dated:

June 6, 1990

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Approved as to form:

Bobby W. McNatt

City Attorney

Note: Please make this our usual bordered add

PETITION

TO: CITY OF LODI COUNCILMEMBERS

RE: WATER SAFETY

WITHIN RECENT WEEKS, THE ATTENTION GRABBING NEWS STORY HAS BEEN THE COUNCIL'S DECISION TO BAN CIGARETTE SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES. WHILE THE EFFECTS OF SECOND HAND SMOKE ARE NOT TO BE DEBATED. THERE IS ANOTHER ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE DEEMED MORE URGENT AND HEALTH DAMAGING. THAT ISSUE IS THE SAFETY OF OUR WATER. RECENTLY A NOTIFICATION WAS SENT BY THE CITY TO HOMEOWNERS, WHICH DEFINED THE CURRENT HEALTH STANDARDS OF THE WATER IN 12 OF LODI'S WELLS. THE WATER IN THESE WELLS IS CONTAMINATED WITH DBCP, A KNOWN CARCINOGEN. THIS WATER IS CURRENTLY BEING SENT INTO THE HOMES OF LODI DURING PEAK HOURS. THESE PEAK HOURS ARE ALSO THE MOST LIKELY TIMES FOR A FAMILY TO BE PREPARING AND EATING A MEAL. THIS, UNLIKE SECOND HAND SMOKE WHICH TO A DEGREE, CAN BE AVOIDED, IS COMING DIRECTLY INTO THE HOME AND BEING USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS! EVEN GIVEN TXE MINUTE PPP (PART PER MILLION) OF DBCP IN THESE WELLS. LODIANS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO FEAR THAT OUR WATER COULD POSSIBLY BE THE MOST HEALTH DAMAGING SUBSTANCE WITH WHICH WE COME INTO CONTACT.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, IN LIEU OF ATTENDING THE JUNE 20, 1990, SESSION ON THIS ISSUE ARE ASKING FOR A RAPID SOLUTION TO THIS LATEST HEALTH HAZARD WHICH WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH EVERYDAY, IN AND OUT OF OUR HOME. WE ARE ASKING THAT THE SAFETY OF LODI'S WATER NOT BE COMPROMISED IN ANYWAY, NOR FOR ANY POLITICAL, OR SEL ?-VALUING REASONS, BUT FOR THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE. WE ARE ASKING THAT ALL OF LODI'S EXISTING WELLS BE BROUGHT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE LAW WITHIN A TIMELY MANNER.

| NAME | ADDRESS | . PHONE-NUMBER |
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